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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/465,634	12/17/1999	DAVID K. VAVRO	INTL-0286-US	9115

7590 10/29/2002

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EXAMINER

MEONSKE, TONIA L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2183

DATE MAILED: 10/29/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/465,634

Applicant(s)

VAVRO ET AL.

Examiner

Tonia L Meonske

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 14 August 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 6.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. The rejection is respectfully maintained and incorporated by reference as set forth in the last office action, paper number 4, mailed on July 8, 2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

6. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 23, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Kitamura, EP 0942603A2 as labeled document I in Applicant's IDS.
7. The rejections are respectfully maintained and incorporated by reference as set forth in the last office action, paper number 4, mailed on July 8, 2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 5, 7, 14, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitamura, EP 0942603A2 as labeled document I in Applicant's IDS.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitamura, EP 0942603A2 as labeled document I in Applicant's IDS in view of Whittaker et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,968,167.

10. Claims 11-13 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitamura, EP 0942603A2 as labeled document I in Applicant's IDS in view of Nakagawa et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,241,679.

11. The rejections are respectfully maintained and incorporated by reference as set forth in the last office action, paper number 4, mailed on July 8, 2002.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments filed August 14, 2002, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

13. On page 2, Applicants argue in essence:

"Claim 1 was rejected under section 102 as being anticipated by Kitamura. It is indicated that Kitamura teaches a mathematical processor, namely element 5, in Figure 6. However, as indicated in column 11 of Kitamura, paragraph 39, beginning at line 47, the data processing unit 5 splices the video data DA and DB in response to a splicing instruction from CPU 7. There is absolutely no indication that this device can be considered to be a mathematical processor... Similarly, claim 16 calls for using a third processor for mathematical operations. No such thing is shown in Kitamura."

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14. However, "Mathematics" as defined by Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition is

" the science of numbers and their operations, interrelations, combinations, generalizations, and abstractions and of space configurations and their structure, measurement, transformations, and generalizations. "

15. Kitamura has taught that data processing unit 5 splices the video data DA and DB in response to a splicing instruction. DA and DB are encoded video data, which are combinations of bits, or numbers. (Kitamura, Column 11, lines 20-25) Since the data processing unit 5, operates on, or splices DA and DB, the data processing unit, as taught by Kitamura, is a mathematical processor.

Conclusion

16. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tonia L Meonske whose telephone number is (703) 305-3993.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie P Chan can be reached on (703) 305-9712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

tlm
October 22, 2002


RICHARD L. ELLIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER